Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force

John Kirlin, Executive Director Sacramento – May 28, 2008

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Meeting includes two areas

- Water facilities and associated policies:
 - ➤ Advisory on BDCP NOP for EIR/S-action tomorrow:
 - √ Vision adopted in November 2007 included recommendations for decision making re new conveyance and storage
 - √ Advisory comments build on those recommendations
 - ➤ June meeting will include recommendations re conveyance and storage related issues
- Preparation for first staff draft of strategic plan:
 - ➤ Updates on work groups
 - > Emerging conflicts and themes

Advisory on BDCP NOP for EIR/S

- NOP issued March 17, 2008 (distributed to TF at April meeting and copies provided today)
- TF adopted vision included Recommendation 8, speaking to new facilities and conveyance, and near term action recommendation 7 re improvements in current systems
- TF directed staff to draft advisory comments on NOP
- Comment period for scoping ends May 30
- · Discuss draft today and act tomorrow
- Anticipated TF action on conveyance and storage in June involves similar issues

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Adopted vision recommendation re conveyance

- Immediate improvements to current systems
- Assessment of dual conveyance as preferred direction with these performance standards:
 - ➤ Water supply reliability
 - ➤ Seismic and flood durability
 - ➤ Water quality
 - > Projected schedule, cost and funding

Context of policy making on water delivery systems

- DV BRTF vision adopted November 2007
- Governor's letter to senators (2.28.08) directs DWR to initiate NEPA/CEQA processes for at least:
 - > No new Delta conveyance facility
 - > Dual conveyance facilities
 - > Isolated facility
 - > "Armoring"/improved through Delta facility
- NOP issued EIR/S for BDCP
- Task Force received assessments from CALFED and DWR in April

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What recommendations from Task Force re water system facilities?

- · Formal decision processes underway
- TF can focus on how values of its vision and its recommended performance standards are included in decision processes
- Possible examples:
 - > Attention to two co-equal goals eco and water
 - > Roles of storage, conservation, efficiencies
 - Water quality
 - > How are operational considerations addressed?
 - Resilience (e.g., to flood and seismic risks; regional selfsufficiency)
 - > Who is involved in what ways?

Building toward first staff draft strategic plan (June)

- Contributions to first staff draft of strategic plan:
 - Substantive reports from work groups at this meeting; final work will provide important elements to SP
 - Documents and testimony presented to TF since March 2007 being indexed, organized and synthesized
 - Additional work underway by consultants
 - > Responses to questions to agencies and departments
 - > Submissions in response to invitation to participate
- First draft will provide a starting point for work through October, when TF recommends its strategic plan

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Highlights of meeting agenda

- Legislative and legal updates
- Science program work update
- Discussion of NOP for BDCP EIR/S
- Estuarine ecosystem
- Reliable water for California
- Water quality conflicts
- Wetter period diversion theme
- Delta as place
- Governance and strategic finance
- Action items

Action items Thursday

- Advisory on BDCP NOP for EIR/S
- Any questions to direct to departments, agencies or others
- Any requests for information
- Guidance re work to support strategic plan
- Guidance re information to support June recommendations re water conveyance facilities
- Any additional direction to staff